

freedom and liberty—after all, no one likes being told what they can and cannot do—74 percent of Americans say they support right-to-work laws, according to a recent Gallup Poll.

Despite overwhelming American support for right-to-work laws, dictatorial Socialists in March rammed through the House a bill that repeals all right-to-work laws in America. Worse yet, dictatorial Socialists seek to use President Biden's infrastructure bill to slip in a provision that repeals all right-to-work laws in America.

I hope neither of these terrible dictatorial bills ever reaches President Biden's desk. Certainly, I will vote against them and I will vote for freedom, liberty, and protection of America's right-to-work laws.

Madam Speaker, America would be stronger if more States would enact right-to-work laws. I encourage citizens and elected officials to promote right-to-work laws, freedom of choice, and the freedom and liberty right-to-work laws represent.

IMPORTANCE OF BIPARTISAN ENGAGEMENT ON INFRASTRUCTURE

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mrs. TORRES of California). The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Florida (Mr. GIMENEZ) for 5 minutes.

Mr. GIMENEZ. Madam Speaker, I rise today to address the House on the importance of bipartisan engagement on infrastructure.

Yesterday afternoon, I had the privilege of sitting in the Oval Office with President Biden as we, along with a small group of Senators and Representatives, discussed the best way possible to move forward on infrastructure.

Our commitment is clear: Republicans agree that we should put more resources and key investments into the things that we consider the traditional definition of infrastructure. This includes our roads and highways, bridges, ports, and waterways. In order to maintain our competitiveness in the world, strategic investments in things like public transportation and improved air and rail mobility are also key.

We also need to continue fostering American entrepreneurship and private investment in the area of automotive technology with numerous auto companies making great gains in automotive vehicles running on clean, safe, sustainable energy sources, as well as creating an economic environment where they can continue to build out their own electric charging station networks.

Republicans also understand the importance of the technology side of infrastructure, such as the need to expand rural broadband, fortify our cybersecurity to protect critical assets from foreign adversaries, and improving our telecommunication networks across the country. These are all key areas where Republicans and Democrats can come together and work on

infrastructure solutions in a broad, bipartisan way.

As it was made clear to the President, unfortunately, the current proposal floating around goes well beyond that scope and includes funding for projects that are not infrastructure. As much as some of our Members on the other side of the aisle want to speak it into truth, the expansion of social welfare programs is not infrastructure.

If my colleagues want to engage in a rigorous debate over the merits of expanding Medicaid and providing elder care, or whatever else they want to put into this infrastructure proposal, they ought to bring separate bills onto the floor. I am sure my colleagues on this side of the aisle will be happy to engage in that debate.

What we cannot allow is for these provisions to be snuck into a big spending package under the guise of infrastructure.

I do have a small glimmer of hope that there is a bipartisan avenue for moving an infrastructure package. In order to get it done, it is going to take compromise between both sides. President Biden and my colleagues on the other side of the aisle must engage in earnest negotiations with Republicans. Let's put all of our cards on the table and bring forward targeted legislation that actually supports American infrastructure.

RECESS

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 12(a) of rule I, the Chair declares the House in recess until noon today.

Accordingly (at 10 o'clock and 57 minutes a.m.), the House stood in recess.

□ 1200

AFTER RECESS

The recess having expired, the House was called to order by the Speaker pro tempore (Mr. STANTON) at noon.

PRAYER

The Chaplain, the Reverend Margaret Grun Kibben, offered the following prayer:

God our judge, as we anxiously await the verdict from the jury in Minnesota, we plead our case with You. As a country, we are rent with acrimony, torn by our individual understandings of right and wrong, facts and feelings, and divided by a host of opinions on crime and punishment.

Call us to lay all of this—as hopeless as it appears—on Your judgment seat. Then lay Your divine hand upon the outcome of this case, and also on our compatriots' anger, their thoughts of revenge, and the insatiable need to disrupt and destroy. Stay any inclinations toward violence and remind us that vengeful behavior is no more justified than the acts of those who precipitated

that grief and harm and ignited our cities.

Be merciful on this Nation—despite how we have turned our backs on Your perfect love. As You inevitably judge our response to the incidents of unrest that plague our land, forgive our iniquities and heal our brokenness. Redeem the soul of our country.

Then inspire these leaders of our government to find ways to represent back to their districts and to our communities a better way toward reconciling the divide. Call them to follow Your example of compassion and care, humility and love.

In Your saving name we pray.

Amen.

THE JOURNAL

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to section 11(a) of House Resolution 188, the Journal of the last day's proceedings is approved.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Will the gentleman from Minnesota (Mr. HAGEDORN) come forward and lead the House in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Mr. HAGEDORN led the Pledge of Allegiance as follows:

I pledge allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America, and to the Republic for which it stands, one nation under God, indivisible, with liberty and justice for all.

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair will entertain up to 15 requests for 1-minute speeches on each side of the aisle.

THE NORTHERN BORDER

(Mr. HIGGINS of New York asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. HIGGINS of New York. Mr. Speaker, it has been 395 days since the United States-Canadian border closed, and the closure was just extended another 30 days.

Families on both sides of the border have been torn apart. People who love each other, parents, and grandchildren are unable to see each other. Vaccinated citizens of both countries significantly lower the risk of getting COVID and wearing face masks significantly lowers the risk of giving COVID.

We need a plan to open the U.S.-Canadian border with vaccines, face masks, and good physical distancing. We can do so safely and successfully.

WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT

(Mr. HAGEDORN asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. HAGEDORN. Mr. Speaker, workforce development is key to sustaining